MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 JULY 1982

Lebanon

Cease-Fire, Military Situation -- After artillery exchanges "of unprecedented intensity" had aborted one cease-fire attempt, a second cease-fire agreement came into effect late on 28 July and firing died away, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radio reports. Beirut lived through "real hell," according to the Voice of Lebanon, with Israeli shells raining down on the western sector and Palestinian artillery firing not only at Israeli-held positions but also at Christian districts to the northeast. The firing left 18 people dead in all sectors, wounding 67 in the eastern area and 140 in the western sector, the radio said. Confirming that the cease-fire came into effect after heavy exchanges of fire, the IDF spokesman said two Israeli planes attacked "terrorist" positions and ammunition dumps in west Beirut for the 7th consecutive day, Jerusalem radio said. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the raids killed or injured 28 people. The Israelis continued to deny water and electricity supplies to west Beirut, according to a 28 July Beirut radio report.

Regarding the situation in the Al-Biqa' Valley, Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan stressed that Israel will not tolerate Syrian violations of the cease-fire, Jerusalem radio reported. A senior IDF officer said earlier that the Syrians have apparently imposed operational discipline on the "terrorists" in their sector, preventing them from launching operations against the IDF, according to Jerusalem radio. Nevertheless, in a statement reported by the Voice of Palestine, the Palestinian-Lebanese Joint Forces cla med that a guerrilla unit raided an IDF tank position in the western Al-Biqa' late on 27 July, destroying 2 tanks and causing 10 IDF casualties.

Israeli Position, Habib Visit -- U.S. envoy Philip Habib will clarify within 2 days whether the "terrorists" have truly decided to leave Beirut and has promised Israel to obtain an unequivocal commitment that they will leave, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin announced in a statement broadcast by IDF radio. Noting that Israel has provided more time for the negotiations, Begin said that if the talks do not help, Israel will have no alternative but to bring about by its own means the "disappearance" of the "terrorists" from Beirut. In a related report, Jerusalem radio said Israel has not given Habib a deadline but has reemphasized that the PLO's removal from Beirut cannot be conceded. There are indications that Syria, Jordan and Egypt are ready to receive PLO personnel, the radio said. Habib's visit to Israel has been described there as being "the end of the race," MA'ARIV observed. MA'ARIV asserted that if the PLO leader is indeed realistic, he will soon "sober up." The paper went on to say that the "deluxe siege" thus far enjoyed by the "terrorists" in Beirut will not continue and the noose around them is getting tighter. After meeting with U.S. congressmen, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio that he told the delegation "it is very possible that after the PLO has been annihilated in Beirut -- although we would prefer to achieve this through negotiations -- the road will indeed be paved for entering real negotiations with the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el." Meanwhile, the prime minister's office denied Congressman Paul McCloskey's claim to have been told by Begin that Israel has the right to destroy Beirut even if 10 Lebanese and 5 Palestinian civilians are killed for every Palestinian soldier, the radio reported.

Contacts, PLO Position -- After meeting with U.S. envoy Philip Habib, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Beirut radio reported. Earlier, Al-Wazzan met with 'Arafat's political adviser Hani al-Hasan and with National Movement Chairman Walid Junblatt, the radio said. Meanwhile, former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam held telephone contacts with Saudi King Fahd and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, the radio noted.

Yasir 'Arafat's recent approval of UN resolutions relevant to the Palestinian problem was not an attempt to satisfy the United States and was not made just because of the current battle situation, but was an effort to end the Israeli invasion and help solve the Palestinian issue, a Voice of Palestine commentary declared. 'Arafat knows that the United States demands PLO recognition of Israel not because nonrecognition threatens Israel, but because it would prompt the PLO toward a series of destructive concessions, the radio claimed.

The PLO delegation at the Arab League minister al meeting in Jidda will refuse to discuss the evacuation of PLO fighters from west Beirut to other Arab countries, a Palestinian source said according to AFP.

Arab Foreign Ministers Committee Meeting -- The Arab foreign minister ministerial committee met in Jidda during the evening of 28 July, SPA reported. Citing diplomatic sources in Beirut, Beirut radio said the committee is expected to announce the names of Arab states prepared to receive PLO fighters, tackle the question of the Arab Deterrent Forces' presence in Lebanon and affirm that Lebanon does not want to end the Syrian presence in Lebanon before the end of the Israeli occupation.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- Iran launched a major offensive into Iraqi territory late 28 July and overran an 11 km stretch of Iraqi defensive lines in the western battlefront, Tehran radio reported. An Iranian military communique carried by the radio said Iranian forces have "complete superiority" and that the Iraqis have suffered heavy equipment and personnel losses. An Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio on 29 July said that its forces contained this fifth offensive launched in the Basra area and destroyed a large amount of Iranian equipment. The communique added that the Iraqis launched a counteroffensive and with helicopter cover forced the Iranians to retreat. Meanwhile, Tehran radio's Arabic service said 60 Iraqi officers were captured and moved to the rear. Earlier, Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces fired on positions in the Saybah region inside Iraq, killing or wounding 31 Iraqis. An Iraqi military communique carried by INA claimed that Iranian positions east of Basra were again hit, killing 17.

Majlis Speaker Comments -- After meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that although Algeria has offered to mediate between Iran and Iraq, Iran made it clear it does not need a mediator because its demands had not changed, IRNA reported. Hashemi-Rafsanjani went on to say that Iran will not appoint a mediator but it welcomed Algeria's efforts to mediate in the conflict. He said Iran's demands included the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces; payment of reparations; punishment of Iraq as the "aggressor"; return of Iraqi refugees to their homes; and availability of a land route through Iraq to Israel. He warned Iraq that if Iran does not get its "rights," Iranian forces will go all the way to Baghdad.

OAU Conference

An effective compromise has been reached that removes the obstacles to holding the OAU summit conference and the danger of the OAU's disintegration, Libyan Secretary for Foreign Affairs 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki said in a press conference reported by JANA. The Saharan delegate has volunteered to withdraw until a solution to the dispute over his participation can be reached, JANA said. However, according to APS, because of the "danger of fragmentation" over the question of the SDAR's participation, it was decided to postpone the meeting "indefinitely."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT DISCUSSES PLENUM

LD281950 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Read by announcer]

[Text] PDPA Central Committee Secretariat members held a meeting this morning in the PDPA Central Committee headquarters concerning the resolutions of the Ninth Central Committee Plenum.

Central Committee members, zone heads, provincial party committee secretaries, heads of the security force's political departments, officials of the social organizations, [word indistinct] of the Central Committee and province governors attended today's meeting.

Nur Ahmad Nur, Politburo member and PDPA Central Committee secretary, officially opened the meeting. Some of the officials and deputy heads of Central Committee departments then spoke about duties laid before the party by the plenum and ways of solving problems and shortcomings in the work of party committees.

Addressing the comrades attending the meeting Nur Ahmad Nur said at the end of today's working session:

Present and historical events in the country have given us the formidable task of defending the workers' and peasants' revolutionary sovereignty, to accomplish revolutionary transformations, to build a new society and social justice (?under the leadership) of the groups guiding the revolution, that is, the party's Central Committee, Revolutionary Council, Council of Ministers, officials of zones and provincial party committees.

Nur Ahmad Nur added: Despite the lapse of 2 years and some months and the experience of fraternal (?masses), shortcomings and weaknesses still exist in the work of party committees.

It is the duty of party committee secretaries to raise the level of responsibilities of the committees' department directors and their level of work [word indistinct] to the level of new party lines. We must organize work in accordance with the plan for building a new society.

Not only should we plan work but we should organize careful control and implementation of the plan. Security discipline and control of party organs, distribution of duties in the committees, planning work and controlling the implementation of the plan will help us in the direction of accomplishing revolutionary duties.

The session will also continue (?tomorrow) to consider the duties newly created by the plenum and the specific duties of the party committees for the implementation of the resolutions of the Ninth PDPA Central Committee Plenum.

AFP REPORTS DETAILS ON CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

BK281109 Hong Kong AFP in English 1044 GMT 28 Jul 82

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, July 28 (AFP) -- Afghanistan's state-owned Kabul radio last night did not report the speech made by Soviet-backed President Babrak Karmal at the Ninth Plenum of the Ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA).

The plenum ended in Kabul on Tuesday night with a call for party unity, the spreading of party ideology among the masses and respect for religious and traditional values.

The state-controlled Kabul radio broadcast the plenum's decisions last night, but abstained from reporting Afghan President Babrak Karmal's speech, which surprised diplomatic experts here monitoring developments in the embattled country.

In earlier plenums, Mr Karmal's speech had dominated the media reports, diplomats said.

The composition of the plenum, chaired by Mr Karmal, was also different from previous ones held since the Soviet Army installed Mr Karmal as the third Marxist president since the communist coup in April 1978.

In addition to regular members, secretaries of provincial committees, chiefs of the military zones, secretaries of the party organizations and the political chief of the armed forces took part in the day-long deliberations.

Another interesting aspect of the plenum was that Mr Karmal did not attend the entire deliberations.

According to the radio, he left after delivering the 'principal statement" and only returned to make his concluding remarks.

In his absence the plenum was chaired by Chairman of the National Fatherland Front (NFF) Saleh Mohammad Ziray.

"The main thrust of the party responsibilities is to propagate, popularise and educate the masses on the party's ideology, economic aims and political, military and social aims of the government," the radio said.

The plenum decision came against the background of a renewed effort by the PDPA to increase party membership, especially among the young people and numerous tribes whose neutrality is the key factor in the government's offensive against the Moslem insurgents opposed to the Soviet-backed Karmal government, the diplomats said.

Though no recent official membership figures are available, diplomats estimate the size of the party at between 45,000 to 70,000.

The plenum also stressed unity, something which has eluded Mr Karmal ever since he was installed as president and the strengthening of the party "so as to enable it to do political work in a befitting manner," the radio said.

Differences between the two factions of the PDPA -- The Parcham and the Khalq -- which have surfaced violently several times in the past, are less evident now, the diplomats said.

"The Soviets apparently have succeeded in bringing the point home among the warring factions leaders that they would gain nothing by fighting each other," said a diplomat who asked not to be named. But he added "the differences... they are very much there".

The plenum gave extraordinary importance to the often repeated government "policies" on religious freedom and respect for the traditional values of the Afghan people -- the two most important factors safeguarded by Afghan Moslems, the diplomats said.

The plenum decision and instruction are in line with widespread official efforts to project a pro-religious government image.

In recent months, the state-owned Kabul NEW TIMES newspaper has carried photographs of new mosques being built and old ones being repaired and there were regular news reports of money gifts to Moslem priests, diplomats said.

They added that Moslem priests have been given prominent places in all important party organizations, and some government organs which are associated with the people such as the National Fatherland Front.

HERALD: GANDHI VISIT MAY CHANGE U.S. POLICY

BK270343 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 22 Jul 82 pp 1, 12

[By Sanjiv Prakash]

[Text] Washington, July 20 -- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's visit may result in changed American foreign perspectives.

It is now dawning on President Reagan that world issues are far more complex than they seemed to him on January 20, 1981.

President Reagan came into office with a lot of strong rhetoric. It was all well received, particularly after the way President Carter conducted the state of affairs during the Iranian crisis. America was overjoyed at the way the new President "tough talked" with the Russians. The European allies had long last got a strong partner and an average American was once again proud of his country.

Then things started changing. Forces which the giant hierachies of the White House, Pentagon or the State Department did not predict started affecting the tough agenda of the new President.

Unexpectedly, Europe became sensitive to nuclear installations. Unprecedented public demonstrations took place in many European countries; West Germany -- the most dependable American ally -- not begging [as published] behind. The Russians looked askance while China was baffled with this new turn of events.

Mr. Reagan continued to carry Congress like a charm. AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia was orchestrated through the legislature and the administration also succeeded in getting its budget proposals through the Hill.

Budget cuts and loss of jobs found America in a recession. Families from Maine to California were affected as their bread earners were laid off. The American media made no secret of the fact that there was a rift in the White House and that the President was a novice in conducting foreign affairs. What sounded like a media fantasy as the White House watched the Central American crisis, the Polish crisis and now the war in West Asia steadily transformed into reality that the administration has to modify and mellow its stand on sensitive world issues. The Lebanese crisis has more than ever proved the helplessness of the U.S. in a particularly trying situation where a country like Israel, entirely dependent on American arms, decided to use American arsenal against civilians. The Reagan administration tolerated the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor earlier this year by Israel on the plea that it was a security risk to Jewish state. But Israel's brutality and belligerence is costing the adminstration very dearly politically.

The feeling in Washington with the resignation of Secretary of State Alexander Haig is that the President is in full control of the foreign policy more comfortably with the advice of his Californian associates. And this is what is worrying everyone in Washington, except the Democrats.

Given these sets of international and domestic forces at play in America, the visit of Mrs Indira Gandhi is looked at as very important. Mrs Gandhi will encounter an administration which is flexible, willing to listen.

It is now in Mr Reagan's favour to get the support of the Indian prime minister on major world issues. Mrs Gandhi's support will provide the American foreign policy a kind of harmony it is now seeking. President Reagan is looking for wider support on various pressing issues, such as the situation in West Asia and the militarisation of the Indian Ocean. Sale of arms by the U.S. will be discussed, although without much emphasis.

HERALD VIEWS SRV PROPOSALS ON KAMPUCHEA

BK270330 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 22 Jul 82 p 6

[Madan Lal article: "Kampuchea: Beyond the 'Farce'"]

[Text] The Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), since its reunification in 1975, has been engaged in the task of national reconstruction. But the spate of events during the last two-three years, commencing with the Chinese aggression on Vietnam in early 1979 and developments in Kampuchea, which forced Vietnam to station its troops there to make its frontiers secure, have added to the problems of the young socialist republic.

The recent unilateral offer of Vietnam to withdraw a sizeable part of its military forces from Kampuchea is a significant move in the direction for resolving the Kampuchean tangle. Vietnam's offer, which came in the wake of the foreign ministers' conference of the Indochina states at the Ho Chi Minh City recently, is, however, not a new one. The SRV had made such offers in the past. This time, Vietnam's offer is not a "token" withdrawal, but a substantive one. According to Nguyen Co Thach, the SRV foreign minister, his country is prepared to withdraw more troops provided Thailand promises not to allow its territory to be used by the Khmer Rouge forces to invade Kampuchea.

SRV's sincere efforts for finding a permanent solution to the Kampuchean issue have been thwarted many a time by China and ASEAN. Vietnam's package of proposals this time seeks a broader solution to the problems confronting the countries of S.E. Asia by convening a Geneva-type international conference to be attended by not only the countries of Indochina and ASEAN but also by India, Burma, USA, USSR, France, Britain and China. If the experience of the 1954 Geneva Conference is any guide there is every possibility of envisaging a lasting solution to the problems as most of the countries except China and the USA are eager to work for it.

In such a fluid situation, Vietnam cannot be expected to make a total withdrawal of its troops from Kampuchea in the absence of any international guarantees that there will be no efforts to reverse the process.

Once the SRV has made its intentions clear, now the ball is in the court of ASEAN countries, who should be equally interested in finding a lasting solution to the Kampuchean issue. How will ASEAN react? Will the United States and China keep their hands off the region?

SIX CPI-M WEST BENGAL MINISTERS RESIGN

BK281616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Text] In West Bengal, six ministers of the Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI-M]-led nine-party government have resigned. The chief minister told newsmen in Calcutta this evening that he has received the resignations. They are: Jatin Chakravorty, Debabrata Bandyopadhyay, Nani Bhattacharyya -- all Revolutionary Socialist Party [RSP] -- and Kanai Lal Bhattacharyya, Kamal Guha and Sambhu Ghose of the forward bloc. Jyoti Basu disclosed no other details.

The resignation follows the impasse between the different constituents of the left front on the question of bifurcating some portfolios. The CPI-M has been proposing that health, agriculture, industry -- held by RSP and forward bloc ministers -- should be bifurcated and reallocated. The RSP has been arguing that health and family welfare could be bifurcated but both should be in the charge of their nominees. The party has opposed a CPI-M nominee being allocated one of the portfolios. The forward bloc had opposed the proposal altogether.

The resignation came on the eve of the crucial meeting of the left front committee scheduled for tomorrow to resolve the question of bifurcation of portfolios.

KARACHI PAPERS REPORT SURGE IN SIKH AGITATION

GF281705 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 21 Jul 82 p 8

[Text] New Delhi, 20 Jul (APP) -- Soon after Giani Zail Singh was elected president of India, the extremist Sikh leader Sant Jarnail Singh started new agitation against the Indian Government in Amritsar. This movement was started to protest the government's harsh treatment of Amritdhari Sikhs and Sikh students.

The east Punjab government arrested Sant Jarnail Singh and certain of his followers, who include Sardar Chapal Singh, private secretary to Sant Jarnail Singh. Among the followers arrested, Sardar Lakha Singh and Sardar Katwant Singh were detained for violating government preventive laws while Sardar Amrik Singh was arrested for attacking Sardar Jogindar Singh, a leader of the Narankari faction of Sikhs.

According to another report, the police fired at and killed one young Sikh riding a motorbike. According to the police statement, he was killed while fighting with police and was wanted in connection with the murder of Indian journalist Jagat Narayan. Much earlier Sant Jarnail Singh was also arrested in connection with the murder but was later released.

Further Arrests

GF270801 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 25 Jul 82 p 6

[Text] New Delhi, 24 July (APP) -- Two more followers of Sikh leader Sant Jarnail Singh were arrested in Amritsar last Wednesday (21 July). They have been charged with possessing explosive material against the explosives act. One of the arrested persons is Baba Thara Singh, who is in charge of the temple Gurdwara Gurudarshan Parkash, the headquarters of Sant Jarnail Singh.

The two were arrested at the district courts in Amritsar while they were trying to help the 61 followers of Sant Jarnail Singh arrested earlier for staging a demonstration near the Kotwali building in order to prompt arrest.

Sant Jarnail Singh has challenged the government that if his followers were not released by Sunday (25 July) he would retaliate and in that case the responsiblility would lie with the government.

4 MIZO REBELS SURRENDER TO AUTHORITIES

BK251627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] In Mizoram, four members of the outlawed Mizo National Front [MNF] have surrendered to the authorities at (Sifa), about 90 km from Aijal. According to official sources, those surrendered included one self-styled second lieutenant, a sergeant and two others. The leader of the group said they were associated with the killing of a central reserve police force officer in May this year and they were also involved in illegal extortion of money from people.

With this, about 3280 members of the outlawed MNF have surrendered and over 160 have so far been arrested.

CURFEW LIFTED IN DELHI; SITUATION 'UNDER CONTROL'

BK270331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] The curfew imposed in a part of the walled city of Delhi yesterday was lifted at 0800 [0230 GMT] this morning. Additional Police Commissioner M.K. Singhal told the All-India Radio correspondent that the situation is now under control and police patrolling is continuing in the area.

POLITICAL DETAINEES RELEASED FROM KARACHI JAIL

GF290504 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 Jul 82 p 1

[Text] Karachi, July 17 -- A total of eight [number as published] leaders of various defunct political parties who were arrested here last month under Martial Law Regulations 72 and 78 were released today from Karachi Central Jail.

Those released include Mairaj Mohammad Khan, president, defunct Qaumi Mahaz-e-Azadi; Abid Zuberi, information secretary, defunct National Democratic Party; Nafees Siddiqui, information secretary, defunct Tehrik-e-Istiqlal; Qari Sher Afzal, information secretary, defunct Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Eslam; Yusuf Masti Khan, defunct Pakistan National Party; N.D. Khan, Mohammad Bukhsh Lashari and Abdul Rahim Baluch of defunct PPP [Pakistan People's Party] and Bahar Ali Baluch of defunct Qaumi Mahaz-e-Azadi.

While Nafees Siddiqui was arrested from Saddar area on June 22, the remaining seven [number as published] were arrested from their house on June 21. All of them were lodged in Karachi central jail for 27 days.

Their detention orders were for 30 days, but these were revoked by the martial law authorities today. -- PPI

Editorial Views Release

GF290514 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Jul 82 p 4

[Editorial: "A Positive Step"]

[Text] Recently the government decided to release 9 political leaders from Karachi Central Jail who were arrested last month under various martial law regulations. These leaders, belonging to various components of the MRD [Movement for Restoration of Democracy], were released a few days before the expiry of their detention orders, which have been revoked by the martial law authorities.

This is a positive step because the detention of political personalities serves no purposes other than to bring the government into disrepute. Additionally, political activity within the framework of the laws of the land is a healthy sign of the involvement of the people in national affairs and it provides a very useful channel for the ventilation of popular grievances and expression of opinion.

A few days back the interior minister, while going through a round of 'iftar party' made several statements on what is termed in official jargon as the "law and order situation". In his speeches the interior minister stated that Pakistan had only 13 political prisoners and not 2,300 as claimed by the MRD. Secondly, the minister, while referring to statements made by the MRD, said that some of them were speaking on behalf of their "foreign masters".

This is a serious allegation, more so when it comes from the minister primarily responsible for maintenance of internal security. Public opinion will remain unconvinced regarding the validity of these serious charges unless these are substantiated by published evidence. For too long, the people have got used to hearing the government in power label its opponents as "traitors" or "foreign agents". In fact, an unfortunate tradition has managed to pollute our political process whereby practically all those in the opposition are labelled as such and when it is their turn to govern, they faithfully abide by the precedent established and freely slander their opponents with similar pejoratives.

Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardy, Dr. Khan Sahib, Khan Abdul Wali Khan and the khan of Kalat are among those in our political history who were routinely denounced as "traitors" and/or "foreign agents" while in opposition. While often not being credible with popular opinion, such tactics are also bad politics as these inject an unhealthy element in our political process.

While the government's decision to release the nine MRD leaders in Karachi is commendable, we would venture to add that all of them are political "lightweights" in our national context.

The "heavyweights", who are presumably among the thirteen-odd political prisoners in the country as stated by the interior minister, have been incarcerated for the last three years, mostly in preventive detention.

With five years of relative stability behind it and added confidence for the future, the government would do well to take a step further and release the remaining thirteen political detainees, whose continuing imprisonment can only be an unnecessary embarrassment as well as an impediment in the government's "long march" towards restoration of representative rule.

BRIEFS

MOBILE GROUND STATION -- The Pakistan space and upper atmosphere research commission is setting up a mobile ground station at Karachi at an estimated cost of 3.5 million rupees for monitoring of atmospheric pollution through laser beams. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Jul 82 BK]

CHINESE-STYLE DIESEL ENGINES -- The Pakistani engineering company, a state concern, will shortly start manufacturing Chinese-style diesel engines in collaboration with the China national agricultural machinery corporation. An agreement to this effect has already been signed between the two concerns. These diesel engines will be used by the farming community. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Jul 82 BK]

SUGAR PLANTS TO BANGLADESH, INDONESIA -- Two complete sugar plants are to be manufactured by the heavy mechanical complex at Taxila, one each for Indonesia and Bangladesh, with the financial assistance of national development finance corporation. The plant to be supplied to Indonesia would have a crushing capacity of 3,000 tons sugarcane per day, while that of Bangladesh 1,500 tons per day. The total value of the plants would be $23 million. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 23 Jul 82 BK]

KHAMENE'I WARNS COUNTRIES AIDING IRAQ IN WAR

LD282302 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, a group of air force personnel from Mashhad met with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of the republic. In a speech during the meeting, the president, referring to the successful task of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said that the excellent and exceptional situation enjoyed today by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran is due to the grace of Almighty God and the imam of the era -- may Almighty God hasten his esteemed advent -- and the leadership of the imam of the Islamic nation. You will never find another armed force in the world whose commander is a great free human being, a canonist, a devout ascetic, a self-sacrificing illuminate and on the whole a real worshiper of God. Only you enjoy such a commander.

Mr Khamene'i said that the successes enjoyed today by the combatants of Islam both on the battlefields and in the political arenas have been extremely remarkable. During their military battles our combatants have proved that they have the power to transmit the message of the Islamic revolution and the might to cut short the traitorous hands raised against the Islamic revolution.

He said that what has brought us victory is the path of the Koran and Islam and faith in the great God. Mr Khamene'i emphasized that it has never been the policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to quarrel with those who have no intention of waging war against us and you know full well that so long as the Baghdad regime did not commit aggression against our revolution and our Islamic homeland we left it well alone. He added that those who have not refrained from giving military, financial and political assistance to our aggressive enemy since the beginning of the war should know we feel they are in confrontation against us.

Referring to the excessive and immeasurable assistance given by Egypt and Jordan to Iraq, he said that certain countries have given and are giving military assistance to the Baghdad regime and we hereby tell them that, if they are powerless to defend right, it is in their interest to choose neutrality, for otherwise how could one possibly consider those countries as other than waging war against us?

The president said that we will never show any generous disposition toward those who are at war with us. Likewise, we deem it essential to have friendship and peaceful coexistence with those who are not at war with us.

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL HOLDS SESSION 28 JULY

LD282212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Supreme Defense Council held a session at the presidential office tonight under the chairmanship of President of the Republic Khamene'i. During the session, also attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council and Majlis speaker; Mr Musavi, prime minister; Brigadier-General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr Sham'khani, deputy commander of the Islamic Guards Corps; Colonel Salimi, defense minister; Mr Velayati, minister of foreign affairs; and Mr Gharazi, supervisor of the War Publicity Headquarters; various aspects connected with the war and military issues were put forward and then became the subject of studies and discussions. Colonel Mo'inpur, commander of the air force, and Captain Afzali, commander of the navy, also took part in this session.

In an interview at the conclusion of this session, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Supreme Defense Council spokesman, explained the various issues brought up during tonight's session of the Supreme Defense Council and his explanations will be broadcast later.

RAFSANJANI REPORTS ON MEETING WITH KHOMEYNI

LD282326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Interview granted by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on 28 July -- recorded]

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, was today received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He presented a report concerning the situation of the war, Middle East issues and the recent aggression of the regime occupying Jerusalem against Lebanon, as well as economic issues and Majlis activities.

After the meeting Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani took part in an interview with our reporter, talking about the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy concerning the continuation of the war and the issue of Algeria's mediation for achieving peace, to which we draw your attention:

[Question] Today you were received by the imam of the Islamic nation. Could you please tell us about the issues which were discussed in his presence?

[Answer] In the name o God, the compassionate, the merciful. I came here in order to visit him. I have not been received by him for some time, because of Ramadan. I also raised a few issues, consulted with him and asked for his views. I asked him about the war and we talked about the issues of the Middle East, especially in connection with the Israeli aggression against Iran and the situation which has arisen recently [as heard]. I asked him a number of questions and enquired about his views.

We also discussed various issues about the Majlis and the country's general affairs and about economic issues and so on. I asked for his views and he made some comments.

[Question] What are your views concerning Algeria's proposal for mediation?

[Answer] Basically, to interpret the Algerian effort as mediation is incorrect, which has been made [passage indistinct]. The prime minister clearly stated that (?we did not wish to have any mediators) [words indistinct]. Our conditions were also clear from the start: the unconditional withdrawal of the aggressor, the payment of reparations, the trial of the aggressor [passage indistinct].

[question indistinct]

[Answer] We have a program and we are following it exactly. Our policy has always been to provide some time and to warn. We gave the Iraqis some time and we gave them a warning. [passage indistinct] Now we have entered [Iraq], so they know it is a serious issue.

We have given them some time so they may pay attention. If they do pay attention, this is good, because for every step we advance both we and the Iraqis will suffer damages and we do not wish this. However, if they do not pay attention we will certainly take the next step and later steps.

(?We will get our rights to the full) [words indistinct]. If they satisfy all our conditions we will return. If we feel we will gain our rights in Baghdad, we will go and get them in Baghdad. We should receive our rights. We cannot forego our rights; even if we wish to forego these rights our nation will not do so. The longer Saddam waits to give us our rights, the longer the list of his debts will become.

MATERIALS CONCERNING RAMADAN OPERATION

Joint Staff Communique 996

LD281710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Communique No 996 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We hereby inform the dear compatriots about developments in the imposed war during the past 24 hours:

Yesterday the exchange of fire between our powerful forces and the enemy on the western fronts of the country continued, with the fighters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran enjoying fire superiority.

In Meymak, where the enemy attempts and the fire of the fighters of Islam were most intense, heavier losses and casualties were inflicted upon the aggressive mercenaries of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

On the Marivan front, as a result of the artillery fire of the ground forces upon the positions of Saddam's forces in the Panjwin region, losses and casualties were inflicted upon the mercenaries of the Iraqi Ba'thists and some of their positions and fortifications were destroyed as the result of the fire of our powerful fighters.

During the exchange of fire on the Abadan fronts, our self-sacrificing forces opened fire on the positions and units of the forces of Saddam, destroying a number of enemy heavy ammunition dumps and killing about 10 of the blasphemous forces of Saddam. The heroic forces of the gendarmerie succeeded in silencing the fire of the Iraqi mercenaries, killing or wounding a number of them, as well as stopping their movements.

On 27 July a number of encroaching aircraft of the aggressive forces of Saddam appeared in the airspace over a number of southern and western border towns of our country, but they were confronted by tactical operations and by the antiaircraft fire of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and were forced to flee.

Yesterday some parts of the town of Abadan came under the long-range artillery fire of the forces of Saddam. A number of houses were destroyed and some casualties were inflicted.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Fighting in Abadan, Saybah

LD282010 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Text] According to IRNA and the Central News Unit, the Ba'thist criminals again opened heavy-weapon fire on Abadan today and inflicted some loss and damage. This report indicates that in the savage attack 3 self-sacrificing residents of Abadan were martyred and 24 others were wounded. Two houses were set on fire and two other residential units were damaged.

According to IRNA the self-sacrificing guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Abadan and its suburbs fired on enemy positions in the region of Saybah, inside Iraqi territory, today. One large ammunition depot, 2 AA guns, 1 observation post, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 75-calibre machinegun and part of a communication channel of the Saddamists were destroyed and 31 of them were killed or wounded.

According to the same report, navy units stationed on the banks of the Shatt al-'Arab destroyed several enemy trenches and foxholes and observation posts. During the same period, at least 10 misled Saddamists were either killed or wounded.

Iraqi Lines Penetrated

GF290632 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0549 GMT 29 Jul 82

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners: Please pay attention to the news received just now. According to an IRNA report, quoting the Karbala' central headquarters, the joint operations center of the armed forces and Revolution Guards Corps, the strong Islamic army, in the early hours of their offensive last night, succeeded in crossing the strong enemy defense lines, under heavy enemy artillery shelling, into an important, strategic enemy position. The brave Islamic army was able to break the enemy's strongholds and penetrate deeply into its fortification.

Until 2245, the enemy was desperately trying to surround the Islamic warriors by moving the position of its tanks and armored vehicles but, faced with our brave warriors' resistance and covered by our heavy-artillery shells, he was forced into defeat with heavy casualties. Meanwhile, according to reports received by 0200, all the enemy's defensive lines along 11 km on the operational western zone of the border inside Iraqi territory were crashed and the enemy's artillery was forced to withdraw by the penetration of our advanced troops.

Joint Communique 10

LD290848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Jul 82

[Joint Communique No 10 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of tyrants. You continue the battle with them until all sedition has been wiped out and God's religion is established everywhere for God's sake. [Koranic verse]

Once again the mighty hand of God has emerged from the sleeves of the powerful combatants of Islam to deliver crushing, blasphemy-smashing blows to international arrogance, with the help and support from God. Last night the martyr-nurturing Islamic nation, the blasphemy-smashing army of God, these lovers of God's embrace and followers of Ruhollah [Khomeyni], continuing their victorious Ramadan Operation to vindicate the rights of the Iranian Muslim nation and continue to purge the enmey and advance in Iraqi territory, waged an onslaught on the trenches of the aggressive infidel Saddamists and, seeking God's assistance and His boundless blessing, smashed the fortifications of the Saddamists, who are associated with international arrogance.

In the course of these operations, codenamed "O lord of the ages, save me," which started at 2100 from the north and northwest of [name indistinct] border post, the Islamic warriors, with "God is great" on their lips, these lovers of Hoseyn's Karbala', with divine will and inspired by the rule of authority [velayat-e amr] to defend the Islamic revolution, delivered destructive blows to the defeated enemy.

The vile Ba'thist-Zionist lackeys, who have committed their 22-month-old crimes relying on assistance from international imperialism and satanical dreams of destroying the Islamic revolution, have now resorted to creating defensive (?might) like that deployed by Israel in the occupied territories. Islam's combatants have succeeded in destroying and purging the enemy by clearing and crossing most-extensive minefields and canals, as well as a lot of barbed wire.

At the moment this clash, aimed at the utter destruction of the enemy and the occupation of triangular fortifications, is continuing on the battlefield and Islam's combatants have absolute superiority.

So far many enemy tanks and personnel carriers have been destroyed by Islam's combatants. On one of the operational axes in the early hours of the battle alone, 25 Saddamist tanks and personnel carriers were set ablaze and destroyed. In addition, a large number of enemy troops have been killed, wounded or taken prisoner. Details of the victory of Islam's combatants will be made available to the revolutionary and martyr-nurturing nation.

Your prayers, ever-vigilant community, to the great God pleading for His assistance for the combatants of Islam will help the army of Islam to secure further victories on the battlefields, in hopes of Islam's final triumph over blasphemy and the liberation of Jerusalem from the claws of occupationist Zionism.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iraqi Divisions Retreat

LD290820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0710 GMT 29 Jul 82

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners: According to an IRNA report dispatched from the Karbala' central headquarters, the center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was received a few moments ago, the powerful combatants of Islam -- in continuation of their victorious operations to regain the rights of the Muslim community in defense of the bloody Islamic revolution -- early this morning in a series of coordinated operations cleared tens of kilometers of enemy positions from two eastern and southern wings. The combatants of Islam crossed the enemy defense lines and besieged them in their strongest Israelite [as heard] fortresses and began destroying their armored equipment, which included more than 41 tanks and personnel carriers.

According to some informed military authorities, the Iraqi Ba'thist regime cannot be using triangular fortresses unless they have Israeli advisers present in the Iraqi Armed Forces. Together with the Egyptian forces, there has probably been this military cooperation to help Saddam.

This report also indicates that by 0600 this morning the forces of Islam -- by cleansing the area and destroying the forces positioned on the enemy's defense lines -- rapidly began building defense earthworks inside the enemy defense lines and continued to defend their new positions.

According to the same report, by 0100 this morning the remnants of the Iraqi 5th Division and the Iraqi 9th Division suffered very heavy losses and damages and were forced to retreat.

Tens of misled Iraqi troops, captured by the zealous warriors of Islam, have been captured behind the battlelines so far. We are assisted by God and our victory is near.

60 Officers Captured

GF290755 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0740 GMT 29 Jul 82

[Text] This is Tehran, the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. O brothers and sisters, here is a fresh news item from the Karbala' operation headquarters:

Our correspondent has reported from the Karbala' operation headquarters that 60 captured Iraqi officers have been transferred behind the frontlines. Our correspondents will hold interviews with them and we are waiting for this. God is great, God is great, God is great.

Iraqi Forces in Iran

LD281804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Text] According to IRNA, following the disgraceful escape of the defeated army of Saddam, our forces are continuing mopping-up operations, discovering minefields and consolidating their positions in some border regions of our country. So far, the self-sacrificing forces of Islam have discovered and defused more than 65,000 anti-personnel and antitank mines in the Musian region.

This report also indicates that, before fleeing, the Saddamists planted mines even in the agricultural areas of Musian, (Petak), Darreh-ye Vireh and the Marzabad institute. According to the report, despite the false and baseless claims of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime on their withdrawal from Iranian border regions, the enemy forces are still stationed on strategic heights and at the (Babi), (Rabi), (Tangizeh), (Samireh), (Hadi) and (Bayat) border posts. The enemy has planted mines and dug canals around its positions in those regions and continues daily to open heavy-weapon fire from these places on the devastated city of Musian.

The same report indicates that there are 18 oil wells in the region of Musian, 14 of which are under the occupation of the enemy forces in the (Bayat) and (Samireh) areas.

Reconstruction work in Dasht-e 'Abbas and Musian continues by the self-sacrificing members of the reconstruction crusade and the district office of Musian. Emamzadeh 'Abbas will soon be rebuilt and water will be reconnected to Musian.

FORMER NAVAL COMMANDER REPORTEDLY PARDONED

GF281739 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 28 Jul 82

[Text] According to news agencies, Commodore 'Alavi, former commander in chief of the navy of the Khomeyni regime who was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment on charges of having connections with U.S. intelligence officials, along with 93 other political prisoners, has been pardoned and will soon be freed from prison. The LONDON TIMES published this news today and said that the release of navy and air force officers who were sentenced to long prison terms by the regime's courts means the Islamic Republic Army is in need of knowledgeable and experienced officers.

TEHRAN, ESFAHAN REFINERIES PRODUCING 'NORMALLY'

LD260520 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that the country's Economic Mobilization organization met yesterday with Mr Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, minister of state for executive affairs. At the meeting, the question of problems in the distribution of liquid gas was discussed. Petroleum Ministry officials told the meeting that in view of the fact that Tehran and Esfahan refineries are now working and producing normally, the question of liquid gas distribution problems will soon be solved.

INDUSTRIES MINISTER DEPARTS FOR SPAIN, GDR

LD271204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Industries Minister Hashemi, heading a delegation comprised of representatives from the Ministries of Commerce, Petroleum, Industries, Mines and Metals, Heavy Industries and Foreign Affairs, left Tehran this morning for Spain and the GDR to review and discuss industrial and economic issues and appropriate cooperation in these areas.